

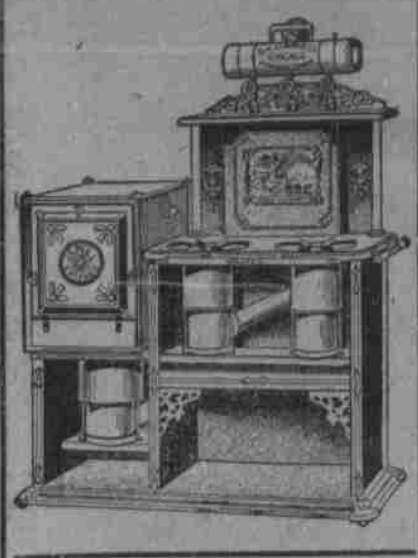
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VINITA, IND. TER., APRIL 30, 1904.

President Roosevelt touched the button at noon today.

Governor Dockery has declared today (April 30) a holiday, on account of the opening of the World's Fair.

The Central district has about all it could desire, evidently; two judges on its federal bench and both from Arkansas.

W. R. Lawrence, the new judge for the Northern district, is an Illinois man, and not from Indiana, as stated in the dispatches.

The wife of Governor Bob Taylor has obtained a divorce from her distinguished husband, who was thrice governor of Tennessee.

If a man steals millions he is a captain of industry; if he steals a few dollars he is a common thief, and likely to be sent to the penitentiary.

If the Commercial Club decides to print a booklet booming Vinita, or, rather, setting forth its resources and advantages, it need not go out of town for the work.

Judge Humphrey is not only from Arkansas, but used to be a democrat. He is not only from a great state but was at least politically right once in his life. Men have been known to recover from even worse afflictions than republicanism.

Next Monday the Cherokee land office will again be opened for the filing of allotment claims. The prospect is that there will be a rush, as the people are tired of waiting and are anxious to get their land set apart to them without delay.

Those who continually cite Rhode Island and Delaware as examples of small states with equal representation in the United States Senate with the larger ones should not ask the government to again be guilty of such folly by making yet more small states.

While matters relating to the final settlement of all Indian matters in this territory are exceedingly slow of development, there is nothing to indicate a standstill. Each year witnesses progress in the direction of the final abolishment of tribal government and of complete land titles.

The eager, inordinate desire to get hold of land in this country is going to be the means of getting many into trouble. Both those who own the land and those who wish to purchase are too anxious to get action. The time will speedily come when legitimate sales can be made, and for such time all should be willing to wait.

A feature of the outdoor display of the Forestry, Fish and Game department at the World's Fair is the Missouri hunting lodge, where the wild game and fish of that state are exhibited. A 200-foot pool occupies the center of the space on which angling contests open to the public are held. Surrounding the pool are cages containing every species of wild animal known in Missouri.

There is a decided toll in the rush to buy land from Creek freedmen at Muskogee. The question of whether the Creek freedman is of Indian blood is now the problem. Nine-tenths of the negroes holding rights in the Creek nation are mixed with Indian blood. The question as to whether the presence of Indian blood in the veins of a Creek freedman would invalidate a land deed made under the provisions of the Indian appropriation bill granting the right to alienate is now up for settlement, and will go to the courts.

### Secretary Shaw On The Sunday School.

Closing a week's jubilee at the Foundry Methodist Church, Washington, Secretary of the Treasury Shaw praised the Sunday school as the preserver of Bible study among the people. The Bible is not taught in the public schools, he said. In our busy life it is not taught in our homes. The head of the family ought to be a priest, but the Bible is seldom read, and less frequently taught. It is seldom taught in the pulpit. You will learn much about the plan of salvation if you listen to sermons, but you will not know much about the Bible. "The only place on this earth where the Bible is taught is in the Sunday school." "You will find much good Christianity lying around unheeded" said Secretary Shaw. "Most of these men learned it in the Sunday school." He urged that the Sunday school be made, not an adjunct of the church but a part of the church. If he had his way the expenses of the Sunday school would come out of the general church fund. Further, make it a place for men. Get men to teach the boys, real men, business men and members of congress. He had known many a boy who got sick because he wanted to be a like man. Boys like to do what men do. Secretary Shaw's final exhortation was: "Get into the Sunday school. There you will begin a line of study that develops your life."

### Our New Judge.

Thomas Humphrey, appointed by the president yesterday to fill one of the newly created judgeships in the Indian Territory, is one of the best known residents of South McAlester. He came from Arkansas in 1900, in which state he lived all his life. His coming experience as a judge will not be the first, he having been thrice on the bench in Arkansas. In the 80's he served as county judge of Logan county and afterwards of Scott county in that state; and afterwards he was appointed judge of the twelfth judicial circuit, to fill out the unexpired term of John S. Little. Subsequently he was sent to the legislature from Sebastian county, and was chosen speaker of the house.

Judge Humphrey is a man whose force of character has carried him to prominence in every environment, and his long experience on the bench in the past, together with his intimate acquaintance, through actual practice with the intricate mazes of Territory law, should render him a particularly suitable man for the place.

The Judge was endorsed for the place by the Central District Republican Executive Committee, and his appointment is an unequivocal recognition of the organization. He is a South McAlester man, every dollar of his property being located here. "Where the treasure is there will the heart be also." Greeting to the new Judge!—So, McAlester News.

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